BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

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October 2, 2001

EXECUTIVE SECOND

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VIA HAND DELIVERY

David Waddell, Executive Secretary Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37238

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Entry Into Long Distance (InterLATA) Service in Tennessee Pursuant to Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

Docket No. 97-00309

Dear Mr. Waddell:

Enclosed are the original and thirteen copies of BellSouth's Reply to Response to Motion to Amend Schedule. Copies of the enclosed are being provided to counsel of record.

Very truly yours,

Guy M. Hicks

GMH:ch **Enclosure**

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

In Re:

Consideration of the Provision of In-Region InterLATA Services By BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. Pursuant to Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

Docket No. 97-00309

BELLSOUTH'S REPLY TO RESPONSE TO MOTION TO AMEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") hereby files its Reply to the Intervenors' Response to BellSouth's Motion to Amend the Procedural Schedule and states as follows:

DISCUSSION

BellSouth files this Reply to correct the numerous inaccuracies in the Intervenors' Response and to rebut the Intervenors' unsubstantiated allegations of misrepresentations by BellSouth. Irrespective of the merits (or the lack thereof) of the Intervenors' Response, BellSouth strongly objects to the Intervenors' characterization of BellSouth's position, and the Intervenors' implication that BellSouth has been anything but forthright and straightforward with the Authority.

First, the Intervenors erroneously contend that BellSouth "proposes to postpone all hearings on the application until after the completion of the agency's OSS and Performance Measures dockets." (Response, at 1). With respect to the performance measures docket, BellSouth has never proposed that the TRA wait on

the completion of the performance measures docket to review the Section 271 application. To the contrary, BellSouth has told the TRA on numerous occasions that it will ask the TRA to rely on a set of interim performance measures, adopted in Georgia, to make its assessment of BellSouth's compliance with the checklist. Thus, it is not necessary to wait for the completion of the performance measurements docket.

With respect to the OSS docket, BellSouth has not changed its position. BellSouth still contends that it is important to move forward on its 271 application. Given the schedule in the OSS case, however, and BellSouth's limited regulatory resources, it simply makes no sense at this juncture to hold the 271 proceeding until February 2002. February hearings will keep the 271 and OSS proceedings in parallel and will place these proceedings in the same scheduling posture that was originally anticipated by BellSouth when it filed its 271 case.

The Intervenors next erroneously contend that BellSouth's representation that its filing is incomplete is incorrect. To the contrary, BellSouth's Section 271 filing with the Authority is complete, and will remain complete in February. The fact that BellSouth will provide the TRA with additional, updated performance data and competitive data in no way impacts the completeness of the current filing. BellSouth always expected that the Authority would want current data, especially performance data. The fact that BellSouth will continue to provide updated performance data in no way impacts the validity of the current filing, despite the Intervenors' contentions otherwise. Indeed, the Authority should have the benefit

of updated competitive and performance data – data the FCC will review when BellSouth files its 271 case at the FCC.

Finally, the Intervenors contend that the application will need to be "substantially amended" due to the OSS docket. Again, BellSouth disagrees. BellSouth's position has not changed: BellSouth contends that its OSS provide nondiscriminatory access to CLECs today and are compliant with Section 271 requirements today. Consequently, BellSouth does not believe it will need to amend its case to prove checklist compliance to the Authority.¹

For these reasons, BellSouth respectfully requests that the Authority deny the Intervenors' request to dismiss BellSouth's 271 application, and grant BellSouth's request to consolidate the 271 proceedings into one hearing and defer the hearing until the week of February 18, 2002. Dismissing the Application is not appropriate for the reasons set forth herein. It is appropriate, however, to defer the hearing until a later date.

Respectfully submitted,

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Guy M. Hicks

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¹ Pursuant to the Authority's request, BellSouth will supplement its testimony to include testimony on its compliance with Section 272 and public interest. This supplemental filing, however, does not change BellSouth's position that its application is complete as set forth in its Motion for Reconsideration.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on October 2, 2001, a copy of the foregoing document was served on the parties of record, via hand delivery, facsimile, overnight or US Mail, addressed as follows:

[] Hand [] Mail ☆ Facsimile [] Overnight	H. LaDon Baltimore, Esquire Farrar & Bates 211 Seventh Ave. N, # 320 Nashville, TN 37219-1823 for Qwest (fka LCI), Intermedia, KMC Telecom III and V
[] Hand [] Mail	Charles B. Welch, Esquire Farris, Mathews, et al. 205 Capitol Blvd, #303 Nashville, TN 37219 for Time Warner and New South
[] Hand [] Mail → Facsimile [] Overnight	Henry Walker, Esquire Boult, Cummings, et al. P. O. Box 198062 Nashville, TN 37219-8062 for XO Communications, ICG, ACSI (e.spire), Brooks Fiber, SECCA and US LEC
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